72

Edward D. C. Jenkins #14
Before the faculty

Cold Bath

Cold Bath

Edward D. C. Jenkins. 5th Carol.

admitted March 20th 1820

of Medicine
May the Ath
of the Bile
his fell and
years 1817 & 1
the various m
ils of Charle
exception of
Towards the ac
practice of m
constituted a
ment, from
ing observatio

From the numerous subjects which the field of Medicine presents I have chosen for the following essay the Utility of the Cold Bath in Fevers—

1st. Of the Bilious Yellow Fever, during the prevalence of this fell and ravaging monster in Charleston S.C. in the years 1817 & 1819. I had an excellent opportunity of seeing the various methods of treatment pursued in the Hospitals of Charleston, one of which was entirely for the reception of the poor with Yellow Fever, I had likewise the advantage ~~the advantage~~ of seeing the practice of my preceptor. The use of the Cold Bath constituted a very important part of the treatment, From the above sources I drew the following observations.

[illegible]

That the Cold Bath was only admissable in the first stages of the disease

That venæsection, an Emetic or Cathartic should precede the cold bath,

That in the more advanced stages it was always injurious.

That it should only be administered during the Paroxysm and when the heat was steadily above the natural standard.

I have selected the following cases as fully shewing the efficacy and safety of the remedy—

Case 1st

Miss A. S. Eleven years of age had the first symptoms of Fever at Eleven o'clock, A.M. about three P.M. my preceptor was called in, Pulse 130, great heat & thirst, ordered a cathartic of Calomel & Salap, which operated freely; At five P.M. ordered the Cold Bath, She was placed in the Bathing Tub and the water as cold as could be got dashed upon her untile she complained of universal chillness, she was then taken out & wrapped

warmly in
the pulse fu
ly. Never
he that cas
ta of the

warmly in blankets. In about five minutes her face flushed, her pulse fuller & slower, in twenty minutes she perspired freely. Never after had she the slightest paroxysm of Fever. In this case we see the solution of disease by one application of the Cold Bath—

Case Second

A Servant of Mr. K's was taken about three in the morning. At nine my preceptor was sent for, he found him labouring under the symptoms of yellow Fever, his pulse full frequent & tense, ordered him to lose ℥xx of blood and a cathartic of x & xx which operated four or five times. At three o'clock visited him the second time, he ordered the Cold Bath, the management of which was left to me with directions to repeat it if necessary, that is if I found the heat and action not much reduced by the application. I had the patient placed in a Bathing Tub and the water dashed upon him until he was completely chilled, when I had him taken out and wrapped up very warmly. I waited for sometime expecting a solution of the disease by a

diaphoresis
complain
landed & Ta
to make a
the uneasy
pit and
time much
the gentle
followed
symptoms.
were worse
ordered cold
and convale
health. The
healthy under
over the spell

S. P. a strong
Yellow Fe
permit fe

diaphoresis, but I was disappointed, He began to complain of the intolerable heat, his pulse one hundred & Ten, He was again placed in the Tub and the water dashed upon him untile he could bear the uneasy sensations no longer; he was then taken out and wrapped up, after a short space of time much was I gratified by an universal and gentle perspiration supervening, this was followed by an abatement of the most distressing symptoms as thirst, heat, &c, he soon fell asleep and woke completely refreshed, a cathartic was then ordered which operated freely. On the third day he was convalescent and progressed rapidly towards health. This case shows that the remedy should be repeated untill there be some decided impression made upon the system—

Case Third

S. P. a stranger to the city had the first symptoms of Yellow Fever at Nine O'Clock A. M. at Ten acquired a permit for his admission to the Hospital established

n that d
t that fol
patient was
open chan
produced
hen he was
of assisting
D
of Calomel
the cathart
The next day
the third
tal nearly
The Cathart
been produ
was due to

A servant
attacked w
a Physician
was forty

[illegible]

[illegible] Office to be drawn and after [illegible] the 14th Bill also was [illegible] in [illegible] and he was completely free from fever and never after had the slightest attack,

Case Fifth

One of my servants was attacked by this disease, bleed of a robust habit, I gave the pills, frequent bleeding, detached the quantity of blood, gave two [illegible] of calomel and the Jalap which operated and drawn the bile copiously, when completely

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

I am well aware that Dr. Rush was against his practice. He states that the cold bath was always resorted to in Philadelphia. Perhaps this may be accounted for by the difference in the climates of the two places.

The use of the Cold Bath in Yellow Fever has the support of very many respectable authorities.

Dr. O'Driscol a respectable and successful physician was a strenuous advocate for the Cold affusion. He employed it very extensively and strongly recommended the remedy to the practitioners of Charleston. He declared that he never lost a single patient when called in the early stage of the disease, and that his principal remedy was the Cold Bath.

Dr. Cleary who attended the 70th Regiment at Antigua, says, that most of the sick were afflicted with Yellow Fever and the mortality had been very great, but on his employing the cold affusion agreeably to the rules laid down by Dr. Currie very few died afterwards.

Dr. Thomas states, that by employing the Cold Affusion at the very onset we might arrest the progress and interrupt

the morbid action of yellow fever, and even in cases of some
days continuance we shall be able by means of it to abstract
that induce sleep and restore the natural powers

[illegible]

[illegible] the most eminent practitioners Dr Currie
Liverpool states that the fever has a marked appearance
[illegible] in that town he had the most [illegible]
[illegible] Never been of a more [illegible] appearance
[illegible] the cold stage [illegible] the fever was extinguished.
[illegible] that [illegible] went through
the stage of hot and in these two stages the
[illegible] the third [illegible]
[illegible] the most [illegible]
[illegible] and when the exacerbation was at its

heat and when the heat rose above what is natural. Dr. Thomas spoke very highly of the remedy and said that he would advise a general diffusion of the patient as soon as the nature of the disease was clearly ascertained: stating that the good effects of this mode of practice he had often experienced.

Mr. Marshall stated, that sixty cases out of sixty four in which the cold affusion was at an early period used, the disease was arrested. Mr. Marshall seldom used any other remedy. This testimony is certainly very much in favour of the superiority of the cold affusion over every other remedy. Even in the advanced stages of this fever the remedy has been attended with advantage. It has been used by some practitioners on the twelfth day in safety and success; it appeases agitation and restlessness, dissipates delirium and appears to snatch the patient from impending dissolution.

In the hot stage of Intermittent Fever I have seen the remedy employed with decisive advantage. It completely arrested the progress of the disease

by exciting a free diaphoresis, which is well known to be a desideratum, and all of our remedies tend to this purpose in this stage of disease. In this as in every other case it must be borne in mind that the heat must be above the natural standard. Dr. Worthington's testimony is in favour of this plan of cure. He says, that after the accession of the hot fit, three or four pails of cold water being dashed upon the patient, the hot stage is either entirely removed or rendered much milder. The remedy most generally produced a mild diaphoresis.—

Case

C. S. had intermittent for twelve months & great variety of remedies had in succession been employed for the removal of the disease but unsuccessfully. Then the alternation of the warm and cold baths was determined upon. During the cold stage the warm bath was given which rendered the approach of the hot stage. As soon as this was completely established, two or three pails of cold water was dashed upon him, he was then taken out and wrapped up warmly;

a gentle pe
repetition
times have
with compl
employed

In the
otherwise be
following a
that he fou
pient scarla
either efflore
place, The pl
stage to strip
sullens of the c
when the par
authority of a
of this
Dr Rheumat
afforded relie
the Medical

a gentle perspiration supervened and he fell asleep, A repetition of this practice entirely cured him. Several times have I seen the same method of treatment attended with complete success. Dr Thomas mentions that he employed the cold affusion with advantage.

In the early stages of Scarlatina has the remedy likewise been attended with success, We have the following authorities in support of it. Dr Currie mentions that he found the affusion of cold water to extinguish incipient scarlatina in repeated instances, so as to prevent either efflorescence or any affection of the throat from taking place, The plan he followed was, if called in the earliest stage to strip the patient naked and dash four or five gallons of the coldest water over him. he only employed it when the patient felt steadily hot we have likewise the authority of Dr Thomas and of other physicians ~~in support of this practice~~.

In Rheumatic affections, the cold bath has sometimes afforded relief. I have taken the following case from the Medical Recorder. A person was subject to Rheumatism.

when attacked
river, ships he
he was thrown
storm and we
followed at a
may not the
imitation of
the cold Bath
the fury of ma
complete su
with his attempt
to Cold Bath
great violence
to cold bath,
the same prac
eight day being
five different
in the bath and
had been preserv
mentioned suffe

when attacked his remedy was, to go to a neighbouring river, strip himself and wade about in the water untill he was thoroughly chilled, when he came out, he hastened home and went immediately to bed. This practice he followed at all times of the year with uniform success. May not the happy result of this case warrant us in the imitation of the mode of cure.

The Cold Bath has been employed with success in calming the fury of madness, we have a case related by Dr. Klapp of its complete success in Mania a Potu. Being baffled in all his attempts of affording his patient relief; he ordered the Cold Bath to be tried. The insanity returning with great violence, the patient was thrown headlong into the cold bath, he came out calm and nearly rational. The same practice was directed to be repeated, the next day being as furious as ever, it was repeated for five different times, He became perfectly calm & rational in the bath, and has continued so ever since. The cold bath has been prescribed in a variety of diseases, I deem those mentioned sufficient to prove its value